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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. In the above referenced Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 6-7, 11, 13-15, 18-22, and 31-33 under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Williams (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,873); claims 8-10, 16, 17, 28, and 34-35 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Williams (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,873) in view of Official Notice; claims 3 and 23 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Williams (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,873) in view of Basawapatna et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,598,231); claims 4, 24, 36, 38 and 41-46 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Williams (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,873) in view of Hodge (US 20010005908); claims 12 and 30 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Williams (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,873) in view of Hartley (U.S. Patent No. 6,473,414); claims 67-68, 72-73, and 75-79 over Williams (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,873) in view of Hoarty (U.S. Patent No. 5,883,661); claim 69 over Williams (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,873) in view of Hoarty (U.S. Patent No. 5,883,661) and further in view of in view of Basawapatna et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,598,231); claim 70 over Williams (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,873) in view of Hoarty (U.S. Patent No. 5,883,661) and further in view of in view of Hodge (US 20010005908); claim 74 over Williams (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,873) in view of Hoarty (U.S. Patent No. 5,883,661) and further in view of in view of Hartley (U.S. Patent No. 6,473,414). Claims 49-51 and 53-66 have been allowed. Claims 5, 25, 39-40 and 71 have been objected to.

Claims 1, 3-4, 6-24, 28, 30-36, 38, 41-51, 53-70 and 72-79 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1,

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21, 36 and 67 been amended. Claims 5, 25, 39-49 and 71 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added. Applicant thanks the Examiner for favorable treatment of claims 5, 25, 39-40, 49-51, 53-66 and 71. The rejections above have been traversed and, as such, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the allowability of claims 1, 3-4, 6-24, 28, 30-36, 38, 41-48, 67-70, and 72-79.

2. As discussed above claim 1 was rejected based on Williams. Claim 1 has been amended to include allowable claim 5. For this reason, Applicant believes that claim 1 and claims 34, and 6-20 that depend therefrom, are patentably distinct from the prior art.

3. As discussed above, Claim 21 was rejected based on Williams. Claim 21 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 25. For this reason, Applicant believes that claim 21 and claims 22-24, 28, and 30-35 that depend therefrom, are patentably distinct from the prior art.

4. As discussed above, Claim 36 was rejected based on Williams in view of Hodge. Claim 36 has been amended to include subject matter from allowable claim 39. For this reason, Applicant believes that claim 36, and claims 38, and 41-48 that depend therefrom, are patentably distinct from the prior art.

5. As discussed above, claim 67 was rejected based on Williams in view of Hoarty. Claim 67 has been amended to include subject matter from allowable claim 71. For this reason, Applicant believes that claim 67, and claims 68-70

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and 72-79 that depend therefrom, are patentably distinct from the prior art.

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For the foregoing reasons, the applicant believes that claims 1, 3-4, 6-24, 28, 30-36, 38, 41-48, 67-70 and 72-79 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that they be passed to allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone or facsimile if the Examiner believes that such a communication would advance the prosecution of the present invention.

No additional fee is due. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees that are required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2126 (VIXS 004).

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

By: /Bruce E. Stuckman reg. 36,693/
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to Fax (512) 241-8444 addressed to Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Alexandria, Virginia 22313, on the date below:

10/04/2006
DateDiane Hudson
Signature